rotra Committee and has also introduced a senior grade for Readers. The total number of effective grades in Universities and Colleges including that of Professor of Eminence now becomes 7. The teachers' organisations have been expressing dissatisfaction against increase in the number of grades.

Strengthening of National Highways

1955. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the plan allocation for strengthening of existing national highways and creation of new national highways during the Seventh Five Year Plan in the entire country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has forwarded a proposal for the conversion of 11 State highways into national highway; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The Seventh Plan outlay includes the provision of Rs. 891.75 crores for the development of existing and new National Highways for the entire country.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. However, owing to financial stringency and other priority considerations, it is not possible at present to declare new National Highways in Maharashtra.

National Highways

1956. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the new national highways undertaken during the Seventh Five Year Plan in the whole country;

(b) what is the total length of new national highways undertaken in Maharashtra during Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether there are any proposals from the Government of Maharashtra in this regard;

(d) whether backward regions like Marathwada or Vidarbha will be given priority while creating new national highways; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) On account of certain priority considerations, following six roads were included in the National Highways network in various States in the 7th Five Year Plan, which incidentally do not include any new NH in the Maharashtra State.

S. No.	H. No.	Total Length (in Kms.)	
1	NE-1	93	
2	37A	23	
3	47A	6	
4	54 (extension)	147	
5	54A	9	183 Km.
6	54B	27	
	TOTAL	305	

(c), (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Roads are declared as NHs not on the basis of any area, region; State or population level, but are considered keeping in view the country as a whole vis-a-vis fulfilment of criteria for new National Highways, proximity of other National Highways and the availability of funds for the purpose.

Length of National Highways in the Country

1957. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:

SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total length in Kms. of national highways in the country;

(b) what is the length of national highways in Maharashtra;

(c) whether there are any new proposals from Maharashtra regarding national highways; and

(d) if so, what action is taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 32,138 Kms.

(b) 2,888 Kms.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, owing to meagre allocation earmarked for new National Highways in the current Plan, it is not possible at present to make new additions in the National Highways network in Maharashtra.

Day Train between Jammu Tawi and Delhi

1958. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a long standing demand of the people of Jammu and Kashmir for a day time railway train between Jammu Tawi and Delhi; and

(b) whether Government propose to start such a train in view of influx of fifteen lakh pilgrims who visit Vaishno Devi cave shrine in Jammu and five lakh tourists who visit Kashmir every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Suggestions have been received to this effect.

(b) Seven pairs of trains are already available between Jammu Tawi and Delhi. Due to inadequate terminal facilities at Jammu Tawi and shortage of coaches and locomotives the proposal is not feasible at present.

Indian Delegation to World Sanskrit Conference

1959. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Sanskrit Conference is being held at Liedon (Holland) this year in which Sanskrit Scholars from all over the world are participating;

(b) whether his Ministry is also sending a delegation there; and

(c) if so, how many delegates are being sent and what are their qualifications and status?